Gubernatorial candidates gather at Gustavus

President Ohle delivers his opening speech at the gubernatorial forum. The candidates spoke on a variety of issues including the economy, student financial aid and gay rights.

With just about a year until the 2010 election, a dozen of the gubernatorial hopefuls came to Gustavus on Monday, Nov. 9. Democratic, Republican and third party candidates tried to convince about 200 Gustavus students, faculty and staff and St. Peter community members that they should be Minnesota’s next governor.

Gustavus President Jack Ohle opened the event by welcoming the candidates, and Assistant Professor of Political Science Kate Knutson moderated the event. With the help of Assistant Professor of Political Science Alisa Rosenthal, Knutson also directed questions to the field.

The questions ranged from gay marriage to environmental issues, but the main focus of the night was post-secondary education. Candidates touched on creating jobs for new college graduates, funding for the State Grant Program (which funds student aid) and health care for young adults.

For now, the candidates are looking to secure their party’s nomination in the spring caucus. All the candidates, however, are already looking to the general election in the fall.

For some, the trip to Gustavus was a return to the area where they grew up. Gustavus alum Margaret Anderson Kelliher ‘90 grew up just a few miles from St. Peter. “It seems like just yesterday that I was running for [Student Senate Co-President],” Anderson-Kelliher said.

Several candidates cited their rural background while in St. Peter, hoping to connect with the local community. “I think the candidate that can appeal in places like St. Peter and Moorhead is the Democrat that can win,” Senator Tom Bakk, one of the DFL hopefuls, said.

For others, it was the start of a long campaign. Mayor of Minneapolis R.T. Rybak made Gustavus one of his first official campaign stops after launching his campaign last week. Rybak just finished a lopsided victory for reelection and is already a top contender for the DFL nomination.

Though the entire field of roughly 26 candidates was invited to the forum, only 12 accepted the invitation. The top contenders for the Republican Party of Minnesota’s (RPM) nomination didn’t attend Monday’s forum, but it did draw several from the Democratic Farmer Labor (DFL) field. One of the major DFL candidates, Matt Entenza, turned down the invitation to the forum, but he attended a roundtable discussion with the College Democrats on Monday night.

The field is expected to narrow before the spring caucuses. Senator Mike Jungbauer, a republican candidate, dropped out of the race Wednesday. Jungbauer cited the tough economy making it difficult for his supporters to donate to his campaign.

A video of the forum will be made available by the Office of Marketing and Communication this week.

The Weekly would like to assist the Gustavus community in getting acquainted with the candidates who have come to campus in the last week. Editor’s note: Mike Jungbauer will not be featured as he has dropped out of the race.

See page 2 for more candidate profiles
Campus Safety Report

Monday, Nov. 2
Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Christ Chapel.

Wednesday, Nov. 4
A bias incident that occurred in Sorenson Hall on Friday Oct. 30, 2009 was reported to Campus Safety.

Thursday, Nov. 5
A bike was reported stolen from the Gibbs Hall bike rack.
A bike was reported stolen from the Swanson Tennis Center.

Saturday, Nov. 7
A non-student while in Sorensen Hall was cited for an underage consumption by SPPD and Campus Safety. The non-student was also cited for Indecent Exposure and issued a Trespass Warning by Campus Safety. A Gustavus student was cited for a social host violation.

Sunday, Nov. 8
A student while in Southwest Hall was cited by Campus Safety for underage consumption of alcohol.

Tip of the Week:
Motor vehicle safety
- Park in well lighted areas, where your vehicle is visible; avoid parking next to vans or trucks.
- Keep all items out of sight, especially valuables. Remove or place CD players/cases, etc. in the trunk.
- Service your vehicle regularly to avoid breakdowns.
- Keep your vehicle locked at all times.
- Consider “The CLUB” or an alarm system.
- When leaving your car for service, remove your other keys.
- Have your key ready when you approach your car. Before getting in, check inside and under your car to make sure no one is hiding.

Correction:
In the article “Dancing with the Profs: A new year brings a new show,” Swing Club was not listed as a co-sponsor of the event. It has been a sponsor since the founding of the Dancing with the Profs program. The Weekly regrets this error.

The Gustavian Weekly Staff

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Letters to the Editor can be sent to letterstothedeeditor@gustavus.edu.

If you are interested in publishing an ad with The Gustavian Weekly, please contact our ad manager, Michelle Lien, at admanager@gustavus.edu.
Study Abroad Fair provides resources for student travelers

Stephanie Duley  
Staff Writer

The Study Abroad Fair at Gustavus will be held Nov. 17 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Campus Center. This fair provides Gustavus students with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge about the study abroad program.

“It’s really helpful. It’s a great first step to decide where to travel and to see what programs are available,” Carolyn O’Grady, director of international and cultural education said.

Gustavus began holding the Study Abroad Fair ten years ago. The fair is helpful to students who are just getting their feet wet in the study abroad process and also to students who have already signed up for a study abroad experience. “There are about 150 approved programs to choose from,” O’Grady said. “All of these approved programs are featured at the fair.”

Along with learning about the many different study abroad programs, students can speak with other Gustavus students about their past study abroad experiences. The fair also offers brochures about traveling experiences and services to renew your passport.

You do not need to be signed up for a study abroad course in order to use this service. “Many professors use this fair as a chance to renew their passports,” O’Grady said.

Students who are not planning on studying abroad can make use of this opportunity. “Every Gustavus student should have a passport, every college student. It’s very important to understand how interconnected the world is,” O’Grady said.

Another advantage of the Gustavus Study Abroad Program is that it is a great menu of programs that doesn’t cost too much money. “When we first began, we had no more than a semester at Gustavus,” O’Grady said. “Students from the last semester in Sweden program will be present at the Study Abroad Fair to share their experiences.”

“There are other programs that don’t cost too much more than a semester at Gustavus,” O’Grady said. “The cost depends on what the student chooses.”

The Study Abroad Program provides students with opportunities to expand their knowledge of other parts of the world. “I went to Guatemala last January Term and I never really have been to a place with a lot of poverty and a corrupt government. It was an eye-opening experience, and I’m really glad that I went there. People in the United States take many things for granted, but the Guatemalans take each day as it comes and are very humble and grateful for what they have,” Junior Health Fitness Major Kayla Tacke said.

Students look forward to their experiences abroad and to the insight they will gain from studying in other areas of the world. “I am going to Costa Rica this January and I’m very excited to experience a new culture. I like that Gustavus gives so many options for studying abroad,” Junior Health Fitness Major Amanda Hestness said.

This upcoming fair provides an overview of all of the programs Gustavus offers and gives students the chance to talk to the directors of these courses. “After the Study Abroad Fair, a good next step is to come into the office for an appointment,” O’Grady said.

GACspot keeps students up to date

If you’ve written on a Facebook wall, you can use this,” Holm said.

This addition will also give organizations more control over what they advertise to the student body. Holm used the example, “If a fraternity is holding a fundraiser at Patty’s … obviously they can’t advertise that around campus because of the alcohol, but they could by using GACspot.”

Because the Student Senate is not under the College’s control, GACspot is free from restrictions that would apply to on campus advertisements. “It will be good to publicize events and to let people know what’s going on,” Co-President of the College Democrats Drew Ajer said.

GACspot is already a resource for students, and the inclusion of student organizations in blogging and promoting different events will enhance the effectiveness of the website in keeping students updated with the many events that take place on and around the Gustavus campus. To check out this website for yourself, log onto www.gacspot.com and watch for the new student organizations’ posts in the coming weeks.
The Study Buddies Program is a tutoring and classroom assistance program facilitated by the Community Service Center at Gustavus that partners with educational facilities in the St. Peter community. The program sends student volunteers to St. Peter Schools as well as the Community Center to help young people learn. This year, the Study Buddies Program began an afterschool pilot program at South Elementary for a group of second graders, and the program has been a huge success.

Last spring, the Study Buddies coordinators sent out an e-mail to the principals in St. Peter to see if any of them were interested in beginning an afterschool program at their school for homework help and basic skill development. Nancy Kluck was the first to reply. “We had a growing need for our students to receive additional help in some of the basic skill development areas. Our after-school programs had focused on other areas, and it just made sense to get kids help with homework and skill development,” Kluck, the principal at South Elementary said.

The partnership between Senior Music Education Major Elizabeth Winslow and Kluck resulted, and soon the two had established a plan for the fast approaching school year. The pilot program is made up of roughly 8 second grade students each day and 8 Gustavus student volunteers, half whom work with the students on Tuesday and half whom work with the students on Wednesday.

“The students who participate were identified by Kluck and their teachers as needing a little extra work in their basic skills. Then, their parents were asked if they would like their child to participate in our program,” said Winslow.

The Gustavus students run the program by first allowing a snack time and then dividing the second graders into groups. These groups either go work on a reading computer program or have homework time and a skill-enhancing activity, which, as Winslow phrased it, “is fun, so it tricks the kids into learning.” Then the groups switch, along with their student volunteer. This way, one volunteer stays with the group throughout the day and can build relationships with the students.

“It’s really exciting to see how much progress the kids have made already,” Winslow said. The teachers are noticing it too. Kluck explained that they plan to expand the program in January to include first graders as well, and she hopes that eventually the program will run every day after school.

The teachers aren’t the only ones at South Elementary who are fans of this new program; the kids love it too. “When I see the kids in the hall and ask them how they’re doing, they say they’re having so much fun after school with the Gustavus students,” Kluck said. The change in attitude toward learning may be one of the most lasting effects of this new program.

For more information or to participate in the Study Buddies Program and the expanding afterschool program at South Elementary, stop by the Community Service Center.

Phoebe Breed
Staff Writer

What do Superman, Ben Franklin and Barbara Walters all have in common?

They were all journalists.

Join the Weekly. E-mail weekly@gustavus.edu.
As many college students know, balancing both academics and athletics can be extremely challenging. This is a challenge Senior Biology Major T.J. Ridley knows well. In fact, he has managed to balance playing two demanding sports, all while earning and maintaining a high grade point average.

T.J., a pre-med student from Edina, MN, has always had a passion for sports and academics. He chose Gustavus because it is one of the few schools at which an athlete can play two sports—he plays both hockey and football—because of its high academic reputation.

“T.J. is a person of self discipline, character and courage who is not afraid to stand up for what he believes in. T.J. will be a success in whatever he chooses to do because of who he is.”

-Brian Bergstrom

“What makes Gustavus special is the fact that an extremely large number of students here participate in groups, clubs and organizations outside the realm of academics.” T.J. said.

His success as a safety on the Gustie Football team and in academics has earned him recognition from several prestigious institutions. In 2008, he was named to the ESPN Magazine Academic All-District V College Division Teams by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). T.J. received this honor because of his achievements both in the classroom—he has a 3.95 GPA—and on the field.

“T.J. is a person of self discipline, character and courage who is not afraid to stand up for what he believes in. T.J. will be a success in whatever he chooses to do because of who he is.” Football Defensive Coordinator Brian Bergstrom said.

“Commitment is [T.J.’s] strong suit. If he sets his mind he never gives up. He also has more will power than any man should.”

-Joe Welch

This year T.J. was also named a semifinalist for the 2009 National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame National Scholar-Athlete Awards. Ridley was nominated by Gustavus because of his high grade point average, athletic ability and leadership skills. He is also in the running to receive one of the 2009 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships. These $17,400 awards are given out to students who stand out in athletics, academics and campus involvement. “Commitment is [T.J.’s] strong suit. If he sets his mind he never gives up. He also has more will power than any man should,” Senior Management Major and Football teammate Joe Welch said.

T.J. also participates in several organizations on campus. He is a member of the Tau Psi Omega fraternity (Reds), Student Athlete Volunteer Educators (SAVE) and is also a Biology T.A. He can most often be found at his favorite spot on campus: the Market Place. He enjoys hanging out with friends and having breakfast during Chapel Break every day.

“I love Gustavus because of its tight-knit community ... [it] allows us to form strong, close relationships and [the] extracurricular activities really bring us all together.”

-T.J. Ridley

“I love Gustavus because of its tight-knit community ... [it] allows us to form strong, close relationships, and the extracurricular activities really bring us all together,” T.J. said.

As for his future plans, T.J. has already applied to ten medical schools, including Northwestern, the University of Minnesota and Boston University. He said that while he would like to stay in Minnesota, it would be fun to experience a new place.

T.J. said that he looks forward to enjoying his last year here at Gustavus as much as possible.

T.J. has some advice for fellow Gusties. He insists that time management is essential in achieving success. “It’s all about not wasting time. Finding that extra 10-15 minutes adds up,” He also urges students to take advantage of on-campus resources, such as the Writing Center and tutors.

“His positive attitude and humble spirit are two reasons that he is so highly respected by his coaches and his peers. T.J. is dependable, a player you can count on to be prepared and ready to do whatever is asked of him.”

-Peter Haugen

There is no doubt that T.J.’s hard work and dedication at Gustavus, both in athletics and in academics, will translate to success for him in both his future career and in his life.

“His positive attitude and humble spirit are two reasons that he is so highly respected by his coaches and his peers,” Head Football Coach Peter Haugen said. “T.J. is dependable, a player you can count on to be prepared and ready to do whatever is asked of him.”

Katie Volney
Staff Writer

Not only is T.J. an integral member of the Gustavus football team, but he is also dedicated to his academic career by maintaining a grade point average of 3.95.
Philharmonic Orchestra performs in a weekend full of music

The Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra will be performing its fall concert on Friday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bjorling Recital Hall. This concert involves more Baroque music than other concerts by the philharmonic orchestra, but it will also include various other musical styles.

Music is an art form that many people enjoy, and they have done so for centuries. Gustavus Adolphus College upholds this tradition, and this year’s Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra Fall Concert on Friday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bjorling Recital Hall is one way to share in that tradition.

“[Attending the fall concert] is a good way to support your peers and listen to some cool, classical music,” Senior Health Fitness Major Natalie Peters said. Peters has been playing for the Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra since last spring. In comparison with the music typically played in the spring, which last year featured pops music, “The Baroque pieces are a lot more challenging,” she said.

“Traditionally, I’ve chosen to do a little more Baroque music for [the fall] concert,” Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra Conductor Brian Buckstead said. Baroque music, which includes composers like Vivaldi, Handel and Johann Sebastian Bach, is not the only music to be performed at the concert this year. Pieces from classical and twentieth-century artists—namely Mozart and Holst—are also on the set list. “I will be playing[ing] the Vivaldi D Major Concerto, and the Capriccio by Goltermann,” Fall Concert Soloist and Cello Instructor Sharon Mautner-Rodgers said.

Not only does the music that the Philharmonic Orchestra plays stem from varied musical styles, but the musicians themselves also come from different backgrounds. With majors ranging from health fitness to sociology and anthropology, the orchestra displays a lot of diversity. This diverse group works hard to execute the versatile and stylistically challenging compositions handed to them.

“Music is always an enriching thing,” Buckstead said. “It should keep [the students] intrigued.” The devotion of the musicians has impressed Mautner-Rodgers. “The students are doing a nice job under Dr. Buckstead’s leadership,” she said. “I love how [music] just transforms you. There is an amazing feeling that overtakes you when you are involved in playing music; it’s like nothing else in the world. It’s like you go somewhere else where you can be completely immersed in the emotion of the music.”

The efforts of the musicians are sure to translate into this year’s fall concert, where a unique ensemble of wind instruments awaits listeners.
Kevin Kling revisits Gustavus

Katie Kaderlik
Staff Writer

One of Gustavus’ very own graduates will be coming to campus on Friday, Nov. 20 to read from his recently published novel, *Holiday Inn*.

“I think he is a very charming, quirky, funny guy. He totally charmed those attending last year’s St. Lucia luncheon. With that incredible twinkle in his eye as he tells stories from his childhood... He seems like a person who has totally accepted his ‘disability’ with much humor.”

-Judy Schultz

Kevin Kling is a 1979 Gustavus graduate who is known nationally for his works as an author. He graduated with a degree in theatre and has written several plays that have been performed around the world. He is most commonly known for his essays read on Minnesota Public Radio (MPR), “All Things Considered.”

Kling has overcome many obstacles in his life, but they have made him a stronger person because of it. He was born with a birth defect in his left arm limiting his ability to use it. He was also in a motorcycle accident that paralyzed his right arm, although he was lucky to survive the accident. Despite these obstacles, Kling continues to write and to inspire others.

“I have heard him on MPR with his essays, as well as having read some of his stories, [and] saw him when he was on campus with Rob Gardner’s last play. I think he is a very charming, quirky, funny guy. He totally charmed those attending last year’s St. Lucia luncheon. With that incredible twinkle in his eye as he tells stories from his childhood—I would have loved to have seen him then. He seems like a person who has totally accepted his ‘disability’ with much humor.” Judy Schultz said, who is the trade book buyer for the Book Mark.

Kling has also written several books including *The Dog Says How*, 21A and his newly published book *Holiday Inn*. “Tales from the Charred Underbelly of the Yule Log” is one of his most well known storytelling shows.

“He is very versatile; he is a screenwriter, musician, actor, storyteller and essayist. He’s just one of the best, and this is a great opportunity to hear him,” Schultz said.

Kling appeared in the February 2007 production of *The Cherry Orchard* at Gustavus and was also the speaker last year at the GLA St. Lucia luncheon. Kling’s appearance on campus is another opportunity for students to hear more about his work and to support a fellow Gustie.

“Kevin is a graduate of Gustavus, so it’s a good opportunity to witness the good work by ‘one of our own.’ I hope students will take advantage of this fun opportunity. It is a good study break and a chance to relax and laugh,” Schultz said.

After Kling’s presentation, there will be copies of his book available for purchase. This event is open to everyone at no cost and is sponsored by the Book Mark, St. Peter Reads, Friends of the St. Peter Public Library and the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

To learn more about Kevin Kling’s work and to hear some of his show on MPR, you can visit his website at www.kevinkling.com.

CAB Coffeehouse presents
Gustie Showcase

Last Wednesday in the Courtyard Cafe, CAB sponsored its first Gustie Showcase of the year. Students Keith Linne, Peter Larsen and Cheenou Her all performed as a part of the show. After the performances, Gustavus alumni band Chasing Friday also gave a live show for the audience.
“Life is no way to treat an animal,” Vonnegut wrote in A Man Without a Country. His final work published before his death, it was a mix of non-fiction and fiction, exploring a range of topics from war and politics to science and technology.

In this essay, we’ll look at the way Vonnegut uses this blend of writing styles to explore the nature of life on earth. We’ll examine how his writing reflects his views on the role of humans in the world, and how he uses his own experiences to comment on contemporary issues. We’ll also consider how his unique style of writing has influenced other authors and how his work continues to be relevant today.

“Life is difficult—the planet is deteriorating, our natural resources are being used up, and we are greedy, ignorant and wrong,” Vonnegut wrote in his essay “Life is no way to treat an animal.” He believed that the only way to make life more bearable was through art, literature, and painting, and he praised the work of other artists who had used these mediums to express their ideas.

Vonnegut’s essay, “Life is no way to treat an animal,” was published in 1974, and it remains one of his most widely read and influential works. It is a powerful reminder of the importance of art and literature in our lives, and of the need to take action to protect the environment and ensure a sustainable future for all.

But Vonnegut’s writing is not just about the environment. He was also a master of satire and parody, and his essays often use humor to highlight the absurdity of modern life. In “The Creation of Art,” for example, he pokes fun at the idea that art is a way to make a living, or that it is simply a way to make people feel good.

Vonnegut’s essays are a testament to the power of writing to affect change, and they continue to inspire and challenge readers today. Whether you are interested in modern literature, environmentalism, or just want to read a good book, Vonnegut’s work is a must-read.
Senior moments
Making it count

Amber Hanson
Staff Columnist

We have all seen Gustavus’ new tagline, “Make your life count,” displayed throughout campus and plastered on the new website. I don’t know about the rest of you, but this freaked me out just a little bit. It might be the realization that, as a senior, the real world is about to hit me in the face in just a few short months, but now Gustavus has been reminding me to work just a little count regardless of Gustavus telling me I have to work just a little count. It might be that I need to keep believing that my life is worth more in the long run. Even if I am having to ignore our new tag line in some fashion. Even if it is in a big way. Maybe once and for all, so we don’t have to deal with all the ice melting below the waterline anytime soon, good ol’ Jack brings up a good point. Everything has its time and place. Every day is a gift and making each day count is worth more in the end than stressing over the fact that we have an underlying pressure to make our lives count in a big way.

So here is my challenge to you: make the little things count. Make each day count, and in the end that will make a life that counted.

Alex Legeros
Staff Columnist

Has the memory of move-in day already faded in your mind, or does it seem like it was maybe last week? It’s November, and that means snow, ice and the arctic breeze are on their way. I know you probably don’t even want to hear about it right now, but it’s November, and let’s face it, we all get a little down on November every year it rolls around. But I want to reclaim November in your minds and give you a little hope for the weeks to come.

1. November is a whole lot better than March. At least now the snow is fresh, the falling flakse are a novelty and playing in snow is something we haven’t done for months. Maybe you haven’t made snowmen, snow furniture, snow forts, or any kind of snow sculpture in years, but I encourage you to try again. Snow is a forgiving medium; you can always add more and take away what you don’t like, and at the very worst what you’ve created can be destroyed in a fun way (by stomping on it, for example).

2. November marks some pretty neat events on campus. It gets cold out, so we need things to do. Keep your eyes open for posters and other announcements for events happening on the weekends. I know the theater gets really busy this time of year, and there are concerts every weekend too. If you don’t take advantage of these free venues, you’re really missing out on all the quality programs we have here, and it’s always nice to see your friends perform something they’ve been working on all year.

3. November has Thanksgiving break. We’re always thankful for Thanksgiving break. Unlike Reading Days, you can actually spend time not doing homework and travelling, and let’s face it, at that point, we all need the chance to catch our breath before December rears its ugly head.

4. You might not all agree with me on this one, but November is always when certain kinds of music make their way back into my life. Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin—the smooth voices of jazz come back on my iPod. There’s something magical about this time of year, when we start wearing long warm coats and mittens, and the music that goes with it in my mind makes the transition extra-special in this month of November.

5. Really, November is a lot better than March. It can be just as cold, but at least in November things don’t look like a post-apocalyptic nuclear-winter wasteland. It’s November and turkey, and winter coats and snow forts. There are concerts every weekend, and it’s always nice to see your friends perform something they’ve been working on all year.

Well, maybe these aren’t the five best reasons to like November, and a couple are coming up on having cold, snowy weather. But I think we all want the mercury to plunge below 32 and a post-apocalyptic nuclear-winter wasteland. We all want to wear winter coats. So it’s not a really rational argument like I usually have for you, but let’s face it. “Sometimes a [winter coat] is just a [winter coat].”

Make your life count, not by dying early like Jack Dawson (above), and certainly not by making inapt wax sculptures.
Learning from the left

Much ado about a public option? Not quite.

Sean Maertens
Staff Columnist

With the latest figures from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) pointing toward a largely limited public option, some national commentators are wondering what the big fuss about the public option was about. The truth is that having the public option as part of the health care reform serves two purposes. One purpose is practical, based on the idea of providing competition against private insurers. The other is ideological, the hope that a public option, much like Medicare and Medicaid, will eventually lead us to a nationalized healthcare system.

Political change is almost always a slow-moving process. It happens in small steps over large periods of time. While I many other Democrats hoped for a single-payer system to be a part of the discussion of health care reform, realistically it wasn’t going to happen. This isn’t because a single-payer system is a bad option for health care reform. In fact, it was probably a great option that should have been seriously considered. No, a single-payer system wasn’t realistic because it is very different than the current system we have, and it’s hard to convince the American public to embrace large-scale reform.

As the most powerful and wealthiest nation in the world, admitting that things in other countries sometimes work better than our own can be hard. That is something that we must come to grips with if we are to really overhaul our healthcare system. Rising premiums, dropped coverage from insurance companies and thousands of people dying from no health insurance every year. These are the stakes today. What else needs to go wrong before we seriously consider overhauling our healthcare system?

The case for love

The storm over gay marriage is reminiscent in some ways of the storm over interracial marriage, resolved in the landmark 1967 case Loving V. Virginia.

Andrew Nelson
Staff Columnist

Once again, after the November elections, Americans have proved that the same baseless scare tactics have worked. It was on that day that the people of Maine voted to overturn a law, passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, which granted full marriage-equality rights to all Maine citizens. In doing so, Maine became the 31st state in the Union to reject same-sex marriages.

In order to defeat the law, which gave full marriage equality to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community, conservative groups used a procedure unique to Maine, called the “People’s Veto.” This, given the requisite number of signatures are collected, allows any law to be put to a populous vote, requiring only a simple majority to be vetoed. Question 1, as it was posed to the people, read, “Do you want to reject the new law that lets same-sex couples marry and allows individuals and religious groups to refuse to perform these marriages?”

The affirmation of “Question 1” does nothing but emphasize a major flaw in our democratic system. Ballot initiatives such as this one, Proposition 8 in California and Referendum 71 in Washington State, are a problem. By allowing these measures to be put on the ballot, we are entrusting the rights of a minority group to the majority. As 31 different states have shown us, it doesn’t work. The minority group, in this case the GLBT community, falls victim to the tyrannical will and governance of a majority that, in most cases, doesn’t give a damn.
I think it is now time to focus on passing this healthcare reform. Public opinion has been compromised over enough that its time to figure out who among the moder ate democrats and republicans will support its passage. If these "moderates" can't even get behind a health care reform bill that figures to reduce the deficit in the long term and provide some real change to health care reform in our nation, then they were never really interested in working on health care reform.

It's time for the final push for health care reform. Hopefully the democratic leaders on the hill can create a good compromise between the House and Senate health care bills. Ideally this bill would create a strong public opinion that provides meaningful competition for private insurance companies and helps to slow the rising premiums faced by families today. This bill would also serve as a stepping stone for more reforms later in time if it can be as successful as its proponents hope it will be.

If this legislation becomes too weak or ineffective because of compromises that democratic leaders have made, it will probably be a while before we have a meaningful discussion about health care reform again. The most important thing is to make this current legislation the best it can possibly be so that future legislation can build on it. Americans want a good piece of legislation. A bill that makes neither liberals nor conservatives happy isn't very likely to accomplish that objective.

Newly uncovered

More than 4 million Americans lost their health insurance this year when a family member was laid off. States with the highest losses:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>State</th>
<th>Lost coverage in 2009</th>
<th>Total uninsured</th>
<th>% uninsured adults</th>
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<td>Pa.</td>
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<td>14.3%</td>
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<td>N.J.</td>
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<td>Del.</td>
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<td>Ga.</td>
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<td>Fla.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Ariz.</td>
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<td>25.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calif.</td>
<td>661,600</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
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NOTE: Alaska and Hawaii are not to scale

State of marriage in the United States

Three more states passed constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage; legal status, by state:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marriage prohibitions</th>
<th>Relationship recognition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional amendments restrict marriage to one man, one woman</td>
<td>Marriage licenses to same-sex couples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laws restrict marriage to one man, one woman</td>
<td>Provide equivalent of spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments or laws have language that does, or may affect other relationships, such as civil unions or domestic partnerships</td>
<td>Provide some spousal rights to same-sex couples entered into in another jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Human Rights Campaign

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"Love" from page II

Because this is the case, the courts must often get involved. The U.S. Supreme Court did so with Brown v. Board of Education in 1954, which overturned the long-held doctrine of "separate but equal." Had segregation been put to a popular vote at the time, there can be no doubt that it too would have been affirmed. But did segregation's popularity make it right or acceptable? Did it make it just? Of course not.

The U.S. Supreme Court did so with Brown v. Board of Education in 1954, which overturned the long-held doctrine of "separate but equal." Had segregation been put to a popular vote at the time, there can be no doubt that it too would have been affirmed. But did segregation’s popularity make it right or acceptable? Did it make it just? Of course not. Much like the anti-segregation laws, which banned interracial marriage (as recently as 2000 in Alabama), time will vindicate same-sex marriage. In many places, it already has. The Netherlands, for example, has allowed same-sex couples to wed since 2001. When it was considering this legislation opponents claimed, "The sky is falling!" and it didn’t. The same could be said for Norway, Canada, Sweden, Spain, South Africa, Belgium, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut and Iowa. These places have all legalized same-sex marriage, and the sky has not and will not fall.

Many who argue against same-sex unions do so because they are trying to "preserve the sanctity of traditional marriage." Dan Savage, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and media pundit, provides an excellent illustration on how "sanctified" marriage actually is. Savage, a gay male, along with his lesbian coworker, Amy Jenniges, went to their local courthouse to obtain a marriage license. He emphasized to the clerk that "Amy and I don't have kids together, we don't live together, we don't love each other, we don't plan to have kids together and we're going to go on living and sleeping with our consenting same-sex partners after we get married. So could we still get a marriage license?" The license department manager replied, "Sure. If you've got 354, you can have a marriage license." The "sacred institution of marriage" is a myth. As far as the state is concerned, marriage is nothing more than a contract between two consenting adult individuals. Anything that can be done by an Elvis impersonator in Las Vegas and undone 24 hours later is not holy and should not be treated as such. After Iowa’s Supreme Court unanimously ruled that it was unconstitutional to ban same-sex marriage earlier this year, efforts were made in the legislature to amend the constitution to define marriage as only between one woman and one man. Why such a bigoted and blatantly discriminatory definition of marriage would ever belong in the Constitution, a transcendental piece of state pride and history, is beyond me and hopefully beyond you.

After same-sex marriages went into effect, Iowa’s Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal gave an impassioned speech to the legislature, in which he eloquently said, “Last Friday night [April 24]” I hugged my wife. You know, I’ve been married for 35 years. I hugged my wife. I felt like our love was just a little more meaningful last Friday night because thousands of other Iowa citizens could hug each other and have the state recognize their love for each other.”

I implore you to take a stand with me and countless other Gusties, Minnesotans and Americans, in favor of equal rights for all people. But above all that, take a stand for and affirm the love that any two individuals share, and support marriage equality now!
* The Calendar Page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed herein are not the opinions of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY, and are not meant to incite violence or to get anyone locked up on charges of terrorism. Nor has it ever been anywhere near the Republican National Convention. Stop asking questions!

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**Friday, Nov. 13**

**Daily Chapel**

Christ Chapel 10:00 a.m.

Next time you’re in the chapel, go to the left. Behind the raised dais, there will be a vacuum looking device Read its name. You’re welcome.

**November Fireside Chat: Wind Update**

Melva Lind Interpretive Center 11:30 a.m.

“Well … we couldn’t get the fire started, so the wind is fine, I guess.”

**Weekend Movie - Taking Woodstock**

Wallenberg Auditorium 7:00 & 10:00 p.m.

The Late Night Snack Sales would make a killing here.

**LineUs Improv Comedy Performance**

Courtyard Cafe 7:30 p.m.

“Yay, they’re good I guess, but sometimes I get the feeling they’re just making it up as they go along.

**The Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra**

Bjorling Recital Hall 7:30 p.m.

Sure, when they’re in their tuxes and black dresses they seem all business, but you should hear their rendition of “Stairway to Heaven”

**Late Night Snack Sales**

Residence Halls 10:00 p.m.

You may want to hold off on eating for a while that night, as LineUs will have split your sides.

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**Saturday, Nov. 14**

**A Royal Affair**

Minneapolis Convention Center

There hasn’t been a romance like this since Catherine the Great took up horseback riding … or the other way around if you like.

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**Sunday, Nov. 15**

**Holy Communion**

Christ Chapel 10:30 a.m.

No one seems to remember the passage right after Jesus tells the disciples to eat his body and drink his blood. “And yea, did the disciples shuffle their feet awkwardly and look quickly round the room, hoping this was one of those metaphors that he liked to use, whilst Judas did cough into his napkin, avoiding eye contact.”

**Catholic Mass with Footnotes**

Linner Lounge 11:30 a.m.

For those of you who feel normal Catholic mass just isn’t long enough.

**The Gustavus Percussion Ensemble**

Bjorling Recital Hall 1:30 p.m.

“I’m sure they’ll do a bang-up job.

**“I Heart the Arts” Gala and Silent Auction**

The Dive 2:00 p.m.

Money talks and a picture says a thousand words, so good luck with that whole “silent” part.

**A Woodwind Chamber Concert**

Bjorling Recital Hall 3:30 p.m.


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**Monday, Nov. 16**

**Inequality Bake Sale**

Outside the Dining Room 10:00 a.m.

For every dollar a man pays, a woman only pays seventy-five cents.

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**Tuesday, Nov. 17**

**Daily Chapel**

Christ Chapel 10:00 a.m.

Also, the stairs that lead up to the choir balcony in the chapel: look at the outside of them and read where the steel part is made. And again, you’re welcome.

**Heritage Room**

7:30 p.m.

**CAB Coffeehouse Concert: Amanda Duncan**

Courtyard Cafe 7:00 p.m.

If the stage smells funny, don’t blame LineUs. They sweat a lot. After all comedy is serious business.

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**Wednesday, Nov. 18**

**Daily Chapel**

Christ Chapel 10:00 a.m.

Society would be doing a lot better if Moses had bothered to bring down the 57 tablets with all the footnotes on them.

**CAB Coffeehouse Concert: Amanda Duncan**

Courtyard Cafe 7:00 p.m.

If the stage smells funny, don’t blame LineUs. They sweat a lot. After all comedy is serious business.

**Smitten Kitten Presentation**

Duncan 8:00 p.m.

“I … I want to make a joke but … it’s a sex shop … I … my God, it’s like seeing your favorite celebrity and being too awestruck to say anything!

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**Thursday, Nov. 19**

**Silent Protest and Speakout**

Everywhere

All Day

Well, once again I don’t know what to say. But this time I guess that’s helping.

**Study Abroad 101**

Linner Lounge 12:30 p.m.

10/1? I guess Gustavus has finally recognized the importance of binary as a foreign language. Now I can justify all the time I spend on Warcraft as “cultural education.”

**Fika**

Swedish House 9:00 p.m.

Sit around and discuse fikal matters.
Men’s and Women’s Cross Country teams ready to finish the season strong

Craig Nordquist  
Staff Writer

The Gustavian Cross Country teams head into this weekend’s NCAA Regional meet with high expectations and hopes to leave behind a season full of injury and illness.

The Gustie Men come off of their first MIAC meet of the season last weekend, while the Gustie Women took in a sixth place finish at the same meet. Both teams will head to Iowa to run in Saturday’s NCAA Central Region Championships.

“Since the beginning of the season, we’ve had our sights set on a strong showing at Regions,” Sophomore Craig Nordquist said, who turned in the team’s best conference performance with a 20th place finish. “We are very excited about the prospects of a top ten performance at Regions.”

The men were hit hard by injuries this season, but they look to forget about that in Iowa and finish the season on a high note. “Things haven’t gone as well as we’d hoped,” Senior John Kennedy said. “We should have been at Conference [while competing at Regions] in the past,” Kennedy said. “We were hoping for maybe [with the finish] considering that our Conference is very competitive.”

Both teams have strong lead packs consisting of several runners that finish within a minute of each other, but lack a true front-runner like most teams.

“It is a strength as well as a weakness,” Kennedy said. “[It can be hard] when you don’t have some guys up front, but on the other hand, if you have a teammate there when you’re struggling, it helps out a lot.”

The Gustie Women have also set high team goals as a result of a second half surge and successful showing at the MIAC Championships. “We were hoping for maybe [with the finish] considering that our Conference is very competitive.”

Both teams have a high cohesion, but they are not afraid to challenge each other and compete for one of the team’s seven available roster spots for championship meets.

“We work together really well, and our team is very competitive within ourselves,” Jones said. “It can be hard [with the finish] considering that our Conference is very competitive.”

On top of their struggles to stay healthy, the runners also had to adjust to their first new head coach in five seasons in Dale Bahr, who replaced Fred Johnson at the beginning of the season. Brenden Huber remains the team’s assistant coach.

“It was a really positive change because both coaches are really involved, and both really care about the team,” Kennedy said. “They’ve done a good job recruiting new runners, and it’s good that they’re putting so much investment into the team’s future.”

The teams are still focusing on finishing this season on a positive note, but many can’t help but feel excited about the chances of next year’s team.

“We have some really good [first-years],” Jones said. “They spent most of the season getting used to the mileage, but next season they’ll do more damage.”

Despite the struggles of both teams at various points in the season, the Gustie runners see this season as a valuable experience that will help bring success to the performance of next year’s squads.

“At Conference we had a few guys who really moved up in the group and dropped as much as a minute,” Kennedy said. “This season set up the future of the team and was a good stepping stone for years to come.”

Next Meet: NCAA Central Regions  
Date: Saturday, Nov. 14  
Time: 11:00 a.m.  
Location: Grinnell, IA

Senior Mark Hartman concentrates on his running form in a recent meet.

Sports Information

Sports Information  
(Left to Right) Senior Vanessa Jones, Junior Megan Lundgren, Junior Brooke Beskau and Kelly Chaudoin ’09 run together in a meet last year.

STANDINGS

FOOTBALL

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MEN’S HOCKEY

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<td>ST. MARY’S</td>
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RESULTS

11/9

Men’s Basketball
@ SMSU (Exhibition)  
L 66-84

11/7

Men’s Hockey
@ UW-Eau Claire  
L 1-3

Men’s Swimming/Diving
vs. St. Cloud St.  
W 150-146

Women’s Swimming/Diving
vs. St. Cloud St.  
L 90-210

Football
vs. St. Olaf  
L 7-20

11/6

Men’s Hockey
@ UW-River Falls  
W 3-2

Men’s Swimming/Diving
@ MSU  
L 117-119

Women’s Swimming/Diving
@ MSU  
L 98-141

Men’s Cross Country
@ Fall Finale  
6th of 7

Women’s Cross Country
@ Fall Finale  
2nd of 10
will be one of the best St. Olaf/ [Gustavus] dual meets in a long time,” Teigen said.

After strong finishes last season, the Gusties have an exciting season ahead of them as well as high expectations. Last season the Men’s team finished 15th at the NCAA championships and the Women’s team finished 39th. Both teams returned some very strong swimmers, but the Men’s team has suffered some losses. “We lost some key members last year, but when positions for Conference or relays open up people become more competitive and it only pushes them to go faster,” Teigen said.

Walker also is hopeful for a successful season. “We’ve lost a lot of fast people, but we’ve gained some crazy fast [first-years] too. Some of the returning swimmers are moving around to different training groups and events, so it will be fun to see where it all leads,” Walker said.

It should be an exciting season for both the Men’s and the Women’s teams. “A lot of people are counting out our team in favor of St. Olaf and St. Thomas on the guys’ side and Carleton and St. Thomas on the girls’ side,” Teigen said. “We have a team that is going to turn some heads, and it is an exciting position to be in.”

Despite the final result of each meet, the Gusties will always be supportive of their teammates. “[There will be] a lot of fast swimming and some crazy cheering from the Gustie Swim team,” Grodecki said.
The Gustavus Women’s Rugby team has surpassed expectations for its season this year and is a significant understatement. After finishing second in the Minnesota Final Four, the Gustie women traveled to Platteville, WI for the Midwest Sweet Sixteen Playoffs on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, 2009. Despite a number three seed in its pool, the Women’s Rugby team upset the number one seed, Illinois State, 39-15 in its first game. With a trip to the Midwest Final Four on the line, the Gusties won again in upset fashion, defeating the second seeded UW-La Crosse 10-5.

Regardless of the Division II status, the Gustie ruggers have competed extremely well with the bigger schools, relying on a combination of talent, passion and an unequalled determination to win. “I think we just want it more,” Junior Cydni Smith said. “As a team we want it so bad. It’s not a coach that pushes us, so we have to push ourselves.”

“Sometimes I think it’s difficult as a peer-led team because all these other schools have leadership with people who know about the game,” Hidalgo said. “We are discovering the game together and building from each other’s strengths.”

The Gustavus Women’s Rugby team is also well aware of how they can attribute the success they have had this season. “We all know that everyone relies on everyone else’s part because it’s not only on one person, it’s on the team,” Sophomore Melody Monyok said. “No one goes out to play for herself. I know what I do impacts what the rest of the team does.”

Sophomore Allison Kieley agreed with Monyok. “We definitely share a cohesiveness on and off the pitch,” Kieley said. The fact that the Gustavus Women’s Rugby team has had so much success this season without a coach cannot be overlooked. “It definitely changes the atmosphere from an orderly, militant type with a coach telling you to do this and that to where you can still find it fun at the end of the day and enjoy practices as a team,” Junior Lindsey Stene said. “Being student-led, everyone is doing it together and it’s a team mentality,” Sophomore Amy Hughes said.

In spite of the difficult practices at times, the team still finds time to have fun together and enjoys spending time as a team. “We do this and that to where you type with a coach telling you to separate the fine line between goofing around, having fun together, [working hard] and being passionate about what needs to get done,” Hidalgo said.

The most notable fun activity the team participates in is a pregame tradition the team has developed this season. “We listen to the song ‘Party in the USA’ by Miley Cyrus and dance and sing out loud. We use it to intimidate our opponents or hope they underestimate us,” Hughes said. The Women’s Rugby team will play Winona State on Saturday, Nov. 14 in Iowa Falls, IA to go to the National Tournament. The Gusties have lost to Winona State twice this season, but those two losses are the only blemishes on their record. The Gusties have also lost those two games by a combined seven points and are confident they can defeat them this time. With a win over Winona State, the Gustavus Women’s Rugby team will go to Nationals out in California in the spring.